

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of  
Bodil Engberg PALLESEN  
Serial No. 09/423,525



Filed: November 10, 1999

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A FIBRE MAT, FIBRE MAT AND USE OF  
SUCH FIBRE MAT

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL  
ACCELERATED EXAMINATION MPEP 708.02 VIII

To the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Sir:

Kindly grant accelerated examination.

(A) the \$130 Petition Fee is attached.

(B) All claims are directed to a single invention. The  
applicant would make an election without traverse if required.

(C) A pre examination search has been made by a foreign  
patent office.

(D) One copy of each reference is already of record

(E) The claimed invention is patentable over the  
references.

Rudloff cards fibers and adds a powdered bonding resin  
before leveling with a perforated drum.

Lewellin uses resin and oven curing.

Zimmer adds chemicals to fibers.

Nieminen describes long fibers which are worked with wood  
splinters.

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Mieck, Buschner and two Costard German references appear to describe multiple steps not in the present invention.

Kjelby uses needle punching of fibers broken by overstretching.

Costard PCT 95/01468 chemically processes forms and breaks, bundles, cards and makes a fine fiber band.

Costard PCT 97/19221 treats fibers with borax and trisodium phosphase.

Barraquet aligns, turns and layers fibers.

Krispin adds chemicals and rovings.

Neuhold adds and cures a binder.

Kontrus adds elastic fibers.

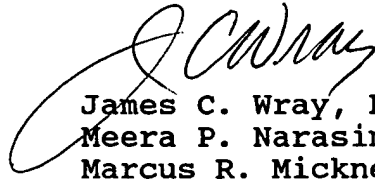
The remaining references describe steps and materials not found in the present invention.

Independent claim 1 describes making a fiber mat with pretreating fibers as plants are harvested by exposing the plant stems to moisture, shortening and separating the stems into a fiber mass with 0.1-30 mm fibers, and drying and dry forming the mat with inter-fiber bonds between fibrils of single fibers, which would not have been obvious from the references.

Dependent claims 2-11 add further nonobvious features.

Accelerated examination is requested.

Respectfully,



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